NUMB. CCKLV.

# The SPECTATOR.

*Ficta Voluptatis causâ ſint proxima Veris.* Hor.

*Tueſday, December* 11. 1711.

THERE is nothing which one regards ſo much with an Eye of Mirth and Pity as Innocence, when it has in it a Daſh of Folly. At the ſame time that one e- the Virtue, one is tempted to laugh at the city which accompanies it. When a Man is wholly of the Dove, without the leaſt Grain Serpent in his Compoſition, he becomes ri- in many Circumſtances of Life, and very diſcredits his beſt Actions. The *Cordeliers* tell of their Founder St. *Francis*, that as he paſſed ſtreets in the Duſk of the Evening, he diſco- a young Fellow with a Maid in a Corner; which the good Man, ſay they, lifted up his to Heaven with a Secret Thankſgiving, that was ſtill ſo much Chriſtian Charity in the The Innocence of the Saint made him the Kiſs of a Lover for a Salute of Cha- am heartily concerned when I ſee a Virtu- without a competent Knowledge of the and if there be any uſe in theſe my Papers, that without repreſenting Vice under any luring Notions, they give my Reader an In- to the Ways of Men, and repreſent Human in all its changeable Colours. The Man has not been engaged in any of the Follies of world, or as *Shakeſpear* expreſſes it, *Hackney'd ways of Men*, may here find a Picture of its and Extravagances. The Virtuous and the may know in Speculation what they could rive at by Practice, and by this means avoid es of the Crafty, the Corruptions of the Vi- and the Reaſonings of the Prejudiced. Their may be opened without being viciated.

with an Eye to my following Correſpondent, *Timothy Doodle*, who ſeems a very well mean- that I have written this ſhort Preface, I ſhall ſubjoin a Letter from the ſaid Doodle.

'I heartily wiſh that you would let us know your Opinion upon ſeveral Innocent Diverſi- which are in uſe among us, and which are very to paſs away a Winter Night for thoſe do not care to throw away their time at an or at the Play-houſe. I would gladly know particular what Notion you have of Hot- as alſo whether you think that Que- Commands, Mottoes, Similies and Croſs have not more Mirth and Wit in them, thoſe publick Diverſions which are grown ſo 'very faſhionable among us. If you would re- 'commend to our Wives and Daughters, who read 'your Papers with a great deal of Pleaſure, ſome 'of thoſe Sports and Paſtimes that may be practiſed 'within Doors, and by the Fire ſide, we who are 'Maſters of Families ſhould be hugely obliged to 'you. I need not tell you that I would have theſe 'Sports and Paſtimes not only Merry, but Innocent, 'for which reaſon I have not mentioned either 'Whisk or Lanterloo, nor indeed ſo much as One 'and Thirty. After having communicated to you 'my Requeſt upon this Subject, I will be ſo free as 'to tell you how my Wife and I paſs away theſe 'tedious Winter Evenings with a great deal of Plea- 'ſure. Tho' ſhe be young and handſome, and good- 'humoured to a Miracle, ſhe does not care for 'gadding Abroad like others of her Sex. There is 'a very friendly Man, a Colonel in the Army, 'whom I am mightily obliged to for his Civilities, 'that comes to ſee me almoſt every Night; for he 'is not one of thoſe giddy young Fellows that can- 'not live out of a Play-houſe. When we are to- 'gether we very often make a Party at blind Man's 'Buff, which is a Sport that I like the better, becauſe 'there is a good deal of Exerciſe in it. The Co- 'lonel and I are blinded by Turns, and you would 'Laugh your Heart out to ſee what pains my Dear 'takes to Hoodwink us, ſo that it is impoſſible for 'us to ſee the leaſt glimpſe of Light. The poor 'Colonel ſometimes hits his Noſe againſt a Poſt, 'and makes us die with Laughing. I have gene- 'rally the good Luck not to hurt my ſelf, but am 'very often above half an Hour before I can catch 'either of them; for you muſt know we hide our 'ſelves up and down in Corners, that we may have 'the more Sport. I only give you this Hint as a 'Sample of ſuch Innocent Diverſions as I would 'have you recommend; and am,

*Moſt Eſteemed SIR,*

*Your ever loving Friend,*

Timothy Doodle.

The following Letter was occaſioned by my laſt *Thurſday*'s Paper upon the Abſence of Lovers, and the Methods therein mentioned, of making ſuch Abſence ſupportable.

*SIR,*

'AMONG the ſeveral ways of Conſolation, 'which abſent Lovers make uſe of while 'their Souls are in that State of Departure, which,

'you

'you ſay, is Death in Love, there are ſome very 'material ones, that have eſcaped your Notice. 'Among theſe, the Firſt and moſt received is a 'crooked Shilling, which has adminiſtred great 'Comfort to our Fore fathers, and is ſtill made 'uſe of on this Occaſion with very good Ef'fect in moſt Parts of Her Majeſty's Dominions. 'There are ſome, I know, who think a Crown 'Piece cut into two equal Parts, and preſerved by 'the diſtant Lovers, is of more Sovereign Ver'tue than the former. But ſince Opinions are di'vided in this Particular, why may not the ſame 'Perſons make uſe of both? The Figure of a 'Heart, whether cut in a Stone or caſt in Metal, 'whether bleeding upon an Altar, ſtuck with Darts, 'or held in the Hand of a *Cupid*, has always been 'looked upon as Taliſmannick in Diſtreſſes of this 'nature. I am acquainted with many a brave Fel'low, that carries his Miſtreſs in the Lid of his Snuff'box, and by that Expedient has ſupported himſelf 'under the Abſence of a whole Campaign. For 'my own part, I have tried all theſe Remedies, but 'never found ſo much Benefit from any as from a 'Ring, in which my Miſtreſs's Hair is platted toge'ther very artificially in a kind of True-Lover's 'knot. As I have received great Benefit from 'this Secret, I think my ſelf obliged to commuui'cate it to the Publick, for the good of my Fellow 'Subjects. I deſire you will add this Letter as an 'Appendix to your Conſolations upon Abſence, 'and am,

*Your very Humble Servant,*

T. B.

I ſhall conclude this Paper with a Letter from an Univerſity Gentleman, occaſioned by my laſt *Tueſday*'s Paper, wherein I gave ſome Account of the great Feuds which happened formerly in thoſe learned Bodies, between the modern *Greeks* and *Trojans*.

*SIR*,

'THIS will give you to underſtand, that there 'is at preſent in the Society, whereof I am 'a Member, a very conſiderable Body of *Trojans*, 'who, upon a proper Occaſion, would not fail to 'declare our ſelves. In the mean while we do all 'we can to annoy our Enemies by Stratagem, and 'are reſolved, by the firſt Opportunity, to attack 'Mr. *Joſhua Barnes*, whom we look upon as the '*Achilles* of the oppoſite Party. As for my ſelf, 'I have had the Reputation, ever ſince I came from 'School, of being a truſty *Trojan*, and am reſolv'ed never to give Quarter to the ſmalleſt Particle 'of *Greek*, where-ever I chance to meet it. It is 'for this reaſon that I take it very ill of you, that 'you ſometimes hang out *Greek* Colours at the 'Head of your Paper, and ſometimes give a Word 'of the Enemy even in the Body of it. When I 'meet with any thing of this Nature I throw down 'your Speculations upon the Table; with that Form 'of Words which we make uſe of when we de'clare War upon an Author,

*Græcum eſt non poteſt legi.*

'I give you this Hint, that you may for the 'abſtain from any ſuch Hoſtilities at your Peril.


*ADVERTISEMENTS.*

By Her Majeſty's Company of Comedians.

AT the Theatre Royal in Drury-Lane this preſent To-day, being the 11th Day of December, will be performed a Comedy called The Amorous Widow: Or, The Wanton Wife. The part of Lovemore by Mr. Wilks, the Wanton Wife by Mrs. Oldfield, Sir Peter Pride by Mr. Johnſon, Barnaby Brittle by Mr. Bullock, Jun. Cunningham by Mr. Mills, Clodpole by Mr. Bullock, Jun. Mr. Pack, Lady Pride by Mrs. Willis, Amorous Widow by Mrs. Porter, Philadelphia by Mrs. Porter, Damaris by Mrs. Bicknell, Prudence by Mrs. Saunders. And the part of Merryman by Mr. Pinkethman.

For the Benefit of Mrs. Hemings.

On the 14th Inſtant, at Mr. Clayton's House in York-Buildings, will be performed, The Paſſion of Sappho and the Fate of Alexander. Tickets, at a Crown each, are to be had at St. James's Coffee-houſe, at Mr. Lillie's in Beaufort Buildings, at the Inner Temple Coffee-houſe in Dorſet-lane, Cornhill, at Squire's Coffee-houſe in Fulwood's Rents, Mandy's Coffee-houſe at Temple-Bar, and at the Coffee-houſe in Swithin's Alley by the Royal Exchange.

This Day is Publiſh'd,

Antiochus, an Opera; as it is to be performed at the Queen's Theatre in the Hay Market. Printed for J. Tonſon at Shakſpear's Head over againſt Catherine-ſtreet in the Strand.

Whereas a Tortois-ſhell Snuff Box ſtuded with Gold, with a Rimm round the Lid, and a Joynt of the ſame, was loſt on or about the Houſe of Lords, on Friday the 7th Inſtant, whoever will bring the ſame to Mr. Wright Goldſmith at the Golden Ball againſt Tom's Coffee-houſe in Ruſſel ſtreet Covent Garden, ſhall immediately receive 2 Guineas Reward and no Queſtions aſked.

A Collection of Original Pictures by the beſt Maſters, lately brought over by P. Motteux, will be Sold by Auction on Wednesday the 19th Inſtant, at the new Houſe next the Theatre in Henrietta Street Covent Garden. Where they may be viewed Three Days. To begin at 10a Clock. Catalogues are to be had at Mr. Prince's a Printſhop in Half Moon ſtreet, at P. Motteux's in Leadenhall-ſtreet, and at Mr. Pelletier's, the place of Sale.

To be Sold by Auction,

On Wednesday the 12th of this Inſtant December, the late Houſhold and Shop Goods of Mr. Tho. Howell, which were ſeized by vertue of a Commiſſion of Bankrupt awarded againſt him) at the Indian Cabinet in Long-Acre near Drury-Lane, conſiſting of Beds and Bedding and other Houſhold Goods, Japan Scrutore Book Caſes, Bureau's, Card-tables, Peer Glaſſes, Swing Glaſſes, Sconces, and all ſorts of Cabinet-makers Goods, to be ſold this Day. To begin at 10 in the Morning, and Catalogues may be had at the Houſe. Note, the Houſhold Goods have not been ſeized.

For Sale by Retail.

At the Wine Vault of Meſſieurs Smith and Co. under Thavies Inn againſt Harton Garden, in Holborn, are ſold new natural Red and White Oporto Wines, imported by them now arrived, and juſt landed, at 12d. per Quart without Doors, 18d. within; new Viana Red at 14d. per Quart without Doors, 16d. within; new Sherries at 20d. per Quart; Mountain at 18d. per Quart without Doors, and 20d. within; Palm Canary at 16d. without Doors, and 20d. within; Barcelona Deep Red at 18d. per Quart without Doors, and 24d. within. Note, the aforeſaid Wines are in their natural Purity. There are Rooms and Accommodations for Gentlemen.

A large Houſe well Wainſcotted, and Glazed and Painted, with great Conveniencies for any Buſineſs, Yard, Ware-houſe and Vaults, and a ſpacious Shop, which has been Furniſhed above 40 Years, is now to be Let on reaſonable Terms, ſtands in the very beſt Place for Trade in the whole City. Enquire of Madam Paulfreeman at her Houſe over-againſt Bell-Yard lane end in Newgate-ſtreet, and know further.

Lately Publiſhed,

Reflections on Mr. Wall's Hiſtory of Infant-Baptiſm, in ſeveral Letters to a Friend. By John Gale, M. A. Printed for J. Roberts in Warwick-lane, near Pater-noſter-row, price bound 6 d. Where may be had, Infidelity and Philoſophy of Atheiſm confuted; being partly an Abridgment, and partly an Improvement of Dr. Cudworth's Intellectual Syſtem of the Univerſe. By Tho. Wiſe, D. D. Fellow of Exeter College in Oxford.



*LONDON*: Printed for *Sam. Buckley*, at the *Dolphin* in *Little-Britain*. Sold by *A. Baldwin* in *Warwick-Lane*; where Advertiſements are taken in, as alſo by *Charles Lillie*, Perfumer, at the Corner of *Beauford-Buildings* in the *Strand*.